

**PARK BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

Chair Craig Kittel called the Park Board meeting to order at 5:44 p.m. on Wednesday, September 30, 2015.

Members Present: Craig Kittel, Jon Hailey, Tania Strawn, Brian Schroeder, Frank Norton, Christine Melby, and Student Representative James Elkin

Members Absent: Joe Ard

Others Present: Michael Derrick, Noah Wiedenfeld, Jeremiah Wendt, and Marie Bannink

Brian Schroeder moved to adopt the agenda, seconded by Jon Hailey, motion carried.

Craig Kittel moved to approve the minutes of the August 26, 2015 meeting, seconded by Brian Schroeder, motion carried.

Public Business Items

Craig Kittel thanked everyone for coming out to the park tonight.

Unfinished Business

Skate Park Design/Fundraising:

Jeremiah Wendt updated the board on the progress of the skate park. SEH has finished the topographic surveying; Monarch is ready to do the site work with a week's notice. Discussion took place for the ground breaking; consensus was Wednesday, October 14th at 4:00 p.m. Cemstone has informed us they will not be doing the framing or finishing work on the concrete. The goal is to get the concrete poured this fall.

Jeremiah shared the naming rights criteria that had been passed in 2013 by the Park Board but the City Council has not approved it.

New Business

Freedom Park Backflow Prevention:

Jeremiah explained the well and irrigation system is not connected to the municipal water system. However, the City is still responsible for protecting the well to ensure the aquifer it draws water from, is not contaminated. A recent cross-connection inspection performed by the Water Department revealed that backflow prevention is required on the system to ensure that water cannot flow back through the irrigation system and enter the well.

Since this work would require a licensed plumber, City staff solicited quotes from Countryside and Munson Plumbing. Countryside provided the low price of \$10,412 to install the necessary backflow prevention devices, with the assistance of City staff.

Because the backflow preventer will need to be installed above ground, City staff is also recommending a fence be constructed around the equipment to protect it and prevent vandalism. The additional cost of the fence is estimated at \$2,500 based on a quote received from Cyclone Fence. Additional costs may be incurred with site preparation (concrete supports, excavation grading), so the total estimated project cost is \$15,000.

Craig Kittel stated he would talk to Mike Darrow regarding sharing the cost with the City. Jeremiah explained as much of the funds as possible will come from Park Impact Fees (current available balance of \$7,796.02), and the remainder from Freedom Park Farm Lease Revenue. The system would be disconnected in October 2015, and the improvements completed next spring before the irrigation system is put back online. Craig Kittel moved to table this until the October meeting, seconded by Tania Strawn, motion carried.

Rotary Benches – Paperjack Park:

The New Richmond Rotary Club would like to donate two benches for installation in Paperjack Park. Both would be blue, which matches the existing color scheme for the park. Both would have the word “ROTARY” in the webbing of the bench. One would have a Rotary plaque on one side, and the other would have a 6”x6” plaque with the following inscription:

“Service Above Self”
In Loving Memory of a wonderful
Rotarian and Friend:
Jesse Skramstad

The benches would be ordered and supplied by the Rotary Club and installed by the City’s Public Works Department. Motion was made by Jon Hailey to approve these benches, seconded by Brian Schroeder, motion carried.

Mike Derrick explained the Rotary may be looking at doing benches each year and place them in different parks.

Park Land Trust Report:

Park Land Trust Fund - \$50,352.19

Impact Fee Fund - \$25,689.64

Inspection Reports:

Jon Hailey stated the benches on the Doughboy Trail are in the water. Jeremiah will contact Bill Buell about the Art Bench project.

Announcements:

Jeremiah stated he has some funds left in the Park & Rec repair account and the tennis courts will be resurfaced this fall. The vendor that supplies our playground equipment has a grant program and we will be applying for toddler play equipment. Christine Melby asked how the Moving Wall event was at Freedom Park. Craig stated the event went well. Jeremiah stated none of the contingency plans needed to be implemented. Noah Wiedenfeld informed the board that we received a \$1,000 grant that will be used for Hatfield/Freedom park for birdhouses and pollinating plants.

Jon Hailey moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Christine Melby, motion carried.

The meeting of the Park Board was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Minutes Submitted by
Marie Bannink
City Secretary